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NEWS RELEASE

February 10th, 2015

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Action taken by Branson Board of Aldermen

Action taken by Branson Board of Aldermen at the Feb. 10th, 2015 meeting

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The Board of Aldermen recognized Police Officer Jennifer Bunting as the February 2015 Employee of the Month. Officer Bunting was the first responder at a recent medical call at a Branson theatre property. She administered CPR to the patient until medical personnel arrived, and he was transported to the hospital. Her efforts allowed the man to be reunited with his family at the hospital.



CONSENT AGENDA - SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE BILLS

Minutes

The Board approved the minutes from various recent meetings.

Annexation

The Board approved the final reading of a bill approving annexation of properties located at 175 Meadowbrook and the associated garage. The other 5 units in this same condo building and the common area around the building area already part of the Branson City Limits.

Coca Cola Contract

The Board approved the final reading of a bill accepting the proposal of Ozarks Coca Cola/Dr. Pepper Bottling Company for product resale. Coca Cola is the current soft drink vendor to the Parks Department, which resells product at the RecPlex and other parks facilities. This agreement is for 5 more years.

Pre-Annexation Agreements

The Board approved the final readings of several bills approving a pre-annexation agreement. These agreements are typically signed when a property which is not adjacent to the City Limits desires to connect to the City water and wastewater system. The agreement allows them to annex to the city at a later date when they become adjacent. The properties approved are:

- 179, 187, 200 and 230 Thunder Ridge Estates Drive
- 122 and 132 Rainfall Circle
- 133 Thunder Ridge Court
 - All of these in Thunder Ridge Estates, Phase 1, located off Bee Creek Road
- 308 Redbud Street
 - In table Rock Acres Subdivision, located off Highway 165

Stop Signs

The Board approved the final reading of a bill amending Section 86-621 of the Branson Municipal Code, Schedule I: Stop Signs. This will remove the stop signs at the traffic calming circle within the Commerce Park Development, which is considered safe without stop signs, at low volume locations.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS (1st Readings and public hearings)

Findings of Fact

The Board approved findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding two hearings that occurred at the Board of Aldermen meeting on January 27th, regarding the appeal of the denial of a Special Use permits by the City of Branson Planning Department.

Legislative Priorities

The Board approved a resolution adopting legislative priorities for 2015. This included two documents:

- The 2015 Legislative Priorities for the Branson/Lakes Area Legislative Partnership, of which the City of Branson is a member. These include State of Missouri support for tourism, transportation and water quality.
- The 2015 City of Branson Legislative Agenda. The priorities include support for the Branson School Board's vote to join the Ozark Technical Community College district, as well as measures to safeguard local control and minimize unfunded mandates.

Department of Justice

The Board approved the first reading of a bill authorizing the Mayor to sign an equitable sharing agreement with the US Department of Justice. This allows funds and assets seized by the Department of Justice to be shared with the City of Branson in its efforts to combat drugs and drug-crimes locally.

Panhandling

The Board approved the first reading of a bill amending Chapter 26 of the Branson Municipal Code, adding additional language to code relating to solicitation. The new language prohibits a person from standing in, or entering into, the roadway for the purpose of solicitation or distribution of materials, for reasons of public safety. This restriction will be effective upon approval of the final reading of the ordinance, which is scheduled for February 24th.

Court Costs

The Board approved the first reading of a bill amending section 34-43 of the Branson Municipal Code regarding court fees. There are two changes being made, both of which mirror recent changes to state law.

- The Domestic Violence Shelter surcharge is being raised from \$2.00 to \$4.00. This surcharge is collected by the State to support shelters.

- The \$35.00 fee formerly collected for the issuance of warrants is being removed from the City Code. The state statute that supports this fee no longer exists.

Bond Refinancing

The Board approved the first reading of several bills authorizing the borrowing of funds in the amount not to exceed \$78,000,000 from the Missouri Development Finance Board, and amending the budget to allow for this change. The new funds are used to refinance existing bond debt in connection with the Branson Landing development. It is anticipated that the savings related to this bond refinancing will save the City of Branson approximately \$12,000,000.

GIS License

The Board approved the first reading of a bill approving an Enterprise Licensing Agreement with ESRI for City Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software. Branson has been a user of ESRI systems for over 20 years, but typically centralized within the Engineering Department. This agreement allows for additional City Departments to have seats on the software.

Signage

The Board approved the first reading of a bill amending Chapter 70 of the Branson Municipal Code regarding temporary off-premises signage. City sign codes already allow for signage on the premises of a business, and off-premises for special events which include an extraordinary use of public land. This bill allows for temporary off-premises convention signage for businesses hosting events which would not qualify as a Special Event, and thus would not require a permit.

(Background materials on all agenda items, including audio of the entire Board of Aldermen meeting can be accessed by going to www.bransonmo.gov and clicking on the "Agendas & Minutes" button on the right side of the website homepage.)